

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Hunting Incident Report 2002



**PO Box 7921
Madison WI 53707-7921**

PUB-LE-006 (Rev. 6/03)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Executive Summary | 3 |
| History of Hunting Incidents & Fatalities | 4 |
| Incident Rate per 100,000 Hunters | 5 |
| Hunting Education Students Certified | 5 |
| Bowhunter Education Students Certified | 6 |
| Bowhunter Education Instructors Certified | 6 |
| Hunter Education Instructors Certified | 7 |
| Month of Incident | 7 |
| Day & Time of Incidents | 8 |
| Where Incidents Occurred | 9 |
| Animals Hunted by Shooter | 9 |
| Firearms Involved in Incidents | 10 |
| Contributing Factors to Incident | 10 |
| Incident Conditions: Weather; Light Conditions; Topography; Ground Cover | 11 |
| Injury Information | 12 |
| Shooter/Victim Hunting Party, Victim Visibility | 12 |
| Shooter Statistics; Hunter Education; Experience; Age & Gender | 13 |
| Shooter Activity at Time of Incident | 14 |
| Distance from Muzzle to Wound | 14 |
| Victim Statistics: Hunter Education; Experience; Age; Gender | 15 |
| Victim Statistics: Surroundings; Color of Cap | 16 |
| Victim Statistics: Color of Coat and Trousers | 17 |
| Hunting Incidents by County & Deer Management Unit | 18 |
| Deer Gun Season Incidents by County & Deer Management Unit | 19 |
| History of Deer Gun Incidents & Fatalities | 20 |
| Deer Gun Incidents: Day of Week; Victim Clothing Color | 21 |
| Deer Season Safety Violation: Archery & Firearms | 22 |

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2002 HUNTING INCIDENT REPORT EXECUTIVE REPORT

Hunting Accident -- is that in which a person is injured by the discharge of a hunting firearm or bow and arrow outside of the home and arising from the activity of hunting, including travel to and from the hunting field.

There were 47 total hunting incidents during the 2002 hunting season, including 4 fatal incidents. One of these fatal incidents occurred during the gun deer season. In 2002 we certified 29,310 Basic Hunter Education students and 339 new volunteer Hunter Education Instructors. We also certified 2,836 students in Bow Hunter Education and 113 new volunteer Bow Hunter Instructors. Thanks to our volunteer Hunter Education Instructors hunting is a safe activity in Wisconsin.

Thirty-five of the total incidents for the year occurred in the months of October and November, with November having 23 of that figure. Three months of the year, March, June and August had no hunting incidents. The weekends accounted for 68% of all incidents. Between 6:00 AM and 4:00 PM there were 37 incidents with 9 between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM, and 10 between 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM.

In order of species hunted the incident totals were deer 53%, turkey 17%, rabbit 12%, squirrel 5% pheasant 2% waterfowl 2%, and raccoon, bear, and grouse at 2% each.

The types of firearms involved in incidents included 59% shotguns, 37% rifles, and 4% handguns. Slide actions were involved in 41% of the incidents and semi auto actions 32%.

Causes for incidents included 11 being victim out of sight of the shooter and 7 being victim covered by shooter swinging on game. Other causes, 6 shooter's failure to positively identify game, 3 the shooter stumbled and fell, 2 from a ricochet, and 2 the trigger caught on an object. Distance from shooter to the victim was between 0-1 yards in 31% (9), 51-100 yards in 23% (7), and 21-50 yards 20% (6) of the 2 party accidents. The activities shooters were involved in were: 8 drivers, 11 standers, 3 still hunting, 2 stalking, and 1 was in a tree stand.

Weather again appeared to be a non factor as 53% of the incidents occurred on clear days and 100% occurred with no precipitation. Ninety-four percent of the incidents occurred during daylight hours and 2% during the night.

Members of the same party were involved in 57% (27) of the 2 party incidents. These figures lend truth to the slogan "Choose your hunting partners as if your life depends on it, because it just might!" The shooter could see the victim in 30% (14) of these incidents. There were 16 self inflicted incidents.

Shooters with 20+ years of experience accounted for 32% (17), and 0 to 5 years of experience accounted for 52% (21), and 16 to 20 years 2% (5), of the incidents that occurred. The 12 to 17 year olds 29% (11), and 30 to 39 year olds 7% (7), and 40 to 49 year olds 21% (9) and 50 to 59 year olds 17% (8) were the leading age groups of shooters in incidents.

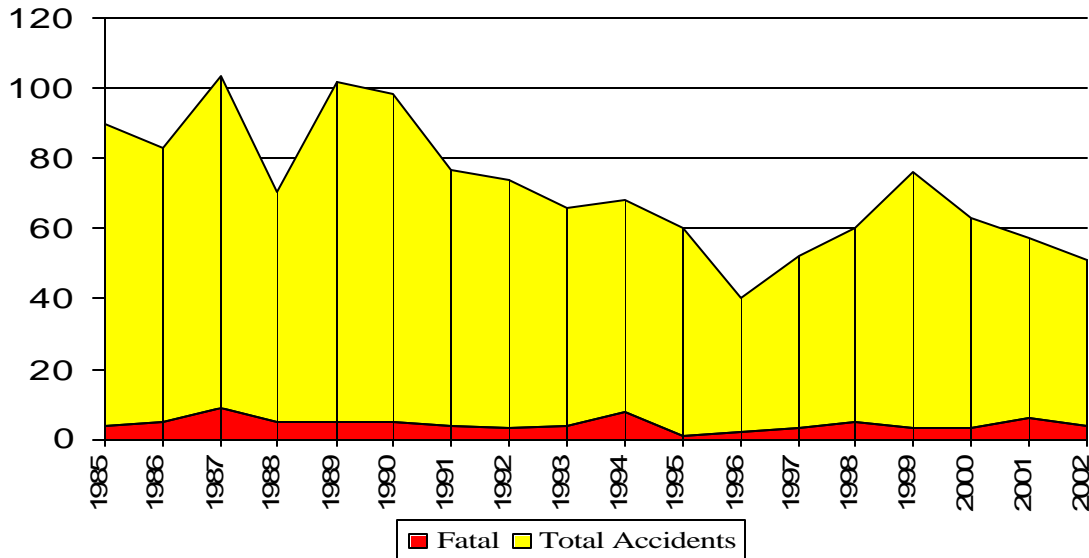
Fifteen percent (7) of the victims in 2 party accidents were wearing no hat or it is unknown what color the hat was, and 35% (17) were wearing a blaze orange cap, and 5% (2) it is unknown what color the coat or vest was and 49% (20) were wearing a blaze orange coat or vest. These totals include the deer gun season proving the more visible the hunter is the less likely they are to be involved in an incident.

To summarize this report, hunters, education instructors, sportsman organizations, and Conservation Wardens should be congratulated for making 2002 a safe year to hunt in Wisconsin. Incident totals were slightly higher than the 10 year average for both the deer gun season and the entire year. There were a couple of serious concerns noticed in 2002 however. There were 4 Deer hunting fatal incidents. The point of always identifying your target before shooting needs to be reinforced by all hunters. Even as we congratulate ourselves we must continue to improve on this record because as we all know any incident is ONE too many. Remember the slogan "Safe Hunting is No Accident."

Timothy J. Lawhern
Hunter Education Administrator

Teri Galbraith
Hunter Education Program Assistant

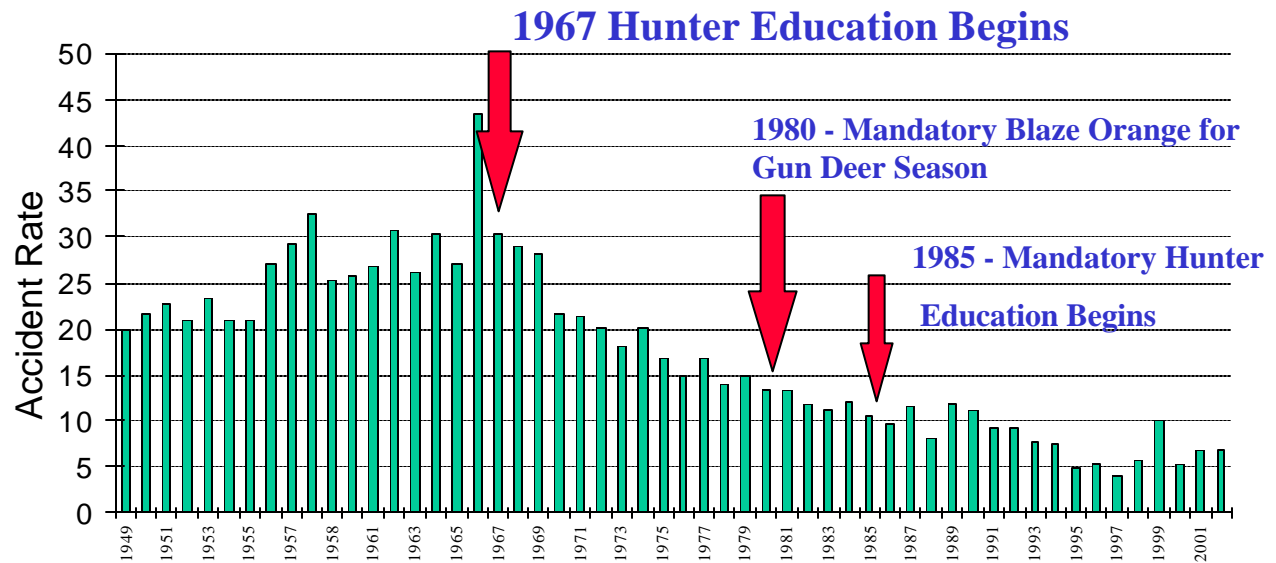
History of Hunting Incidents



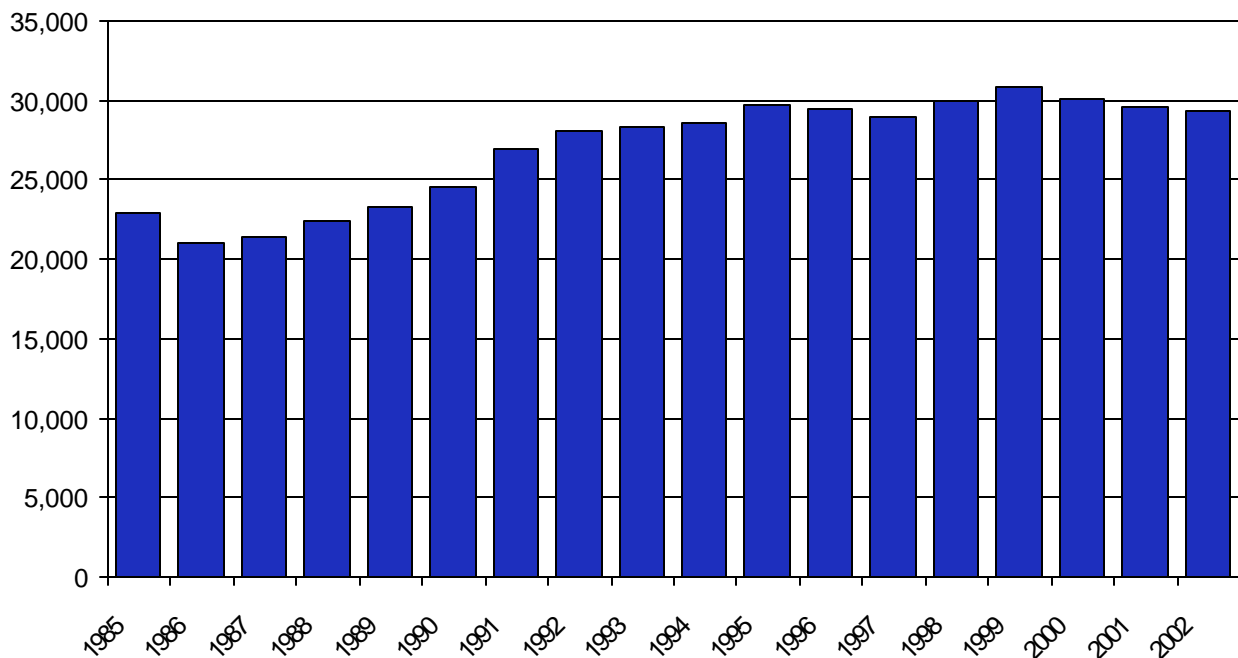
History of Fatalities



Wisconsin Hunting Incident Rate Per 100,000 Hunters

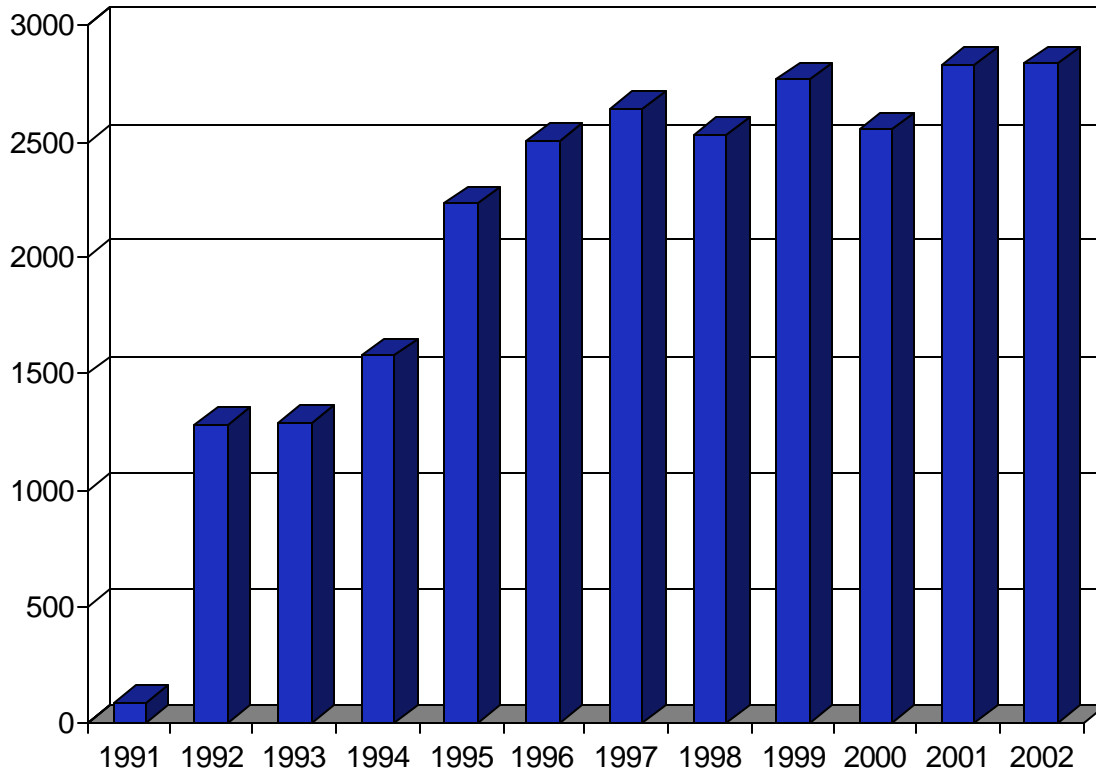


Hunter Education Students Certified



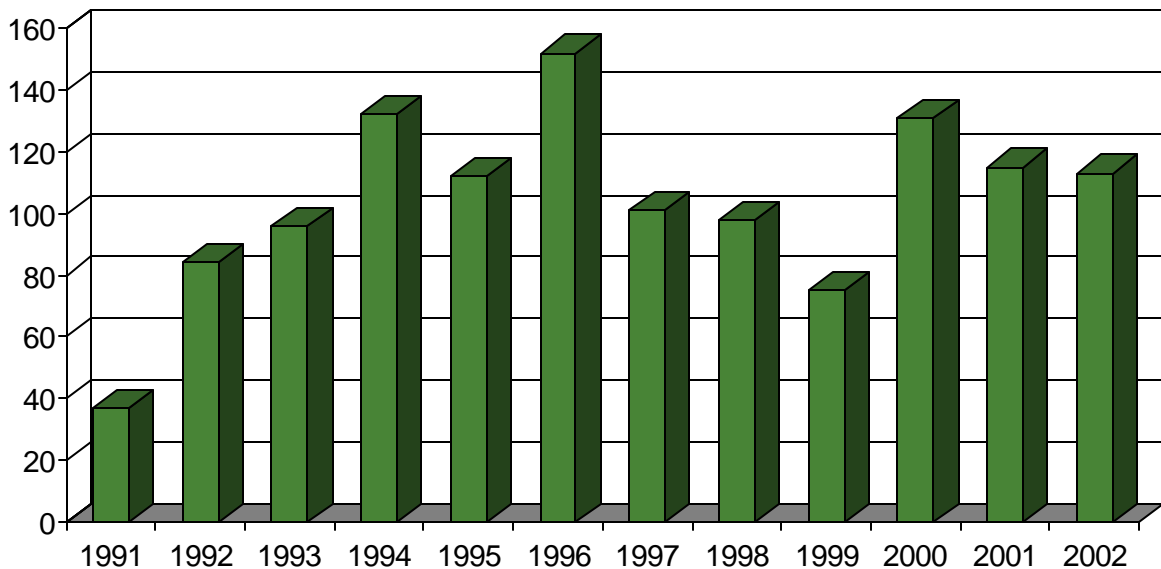
BOWHUNTER EDUCATION

Students Certified



BOWHUNTER EDUCATION

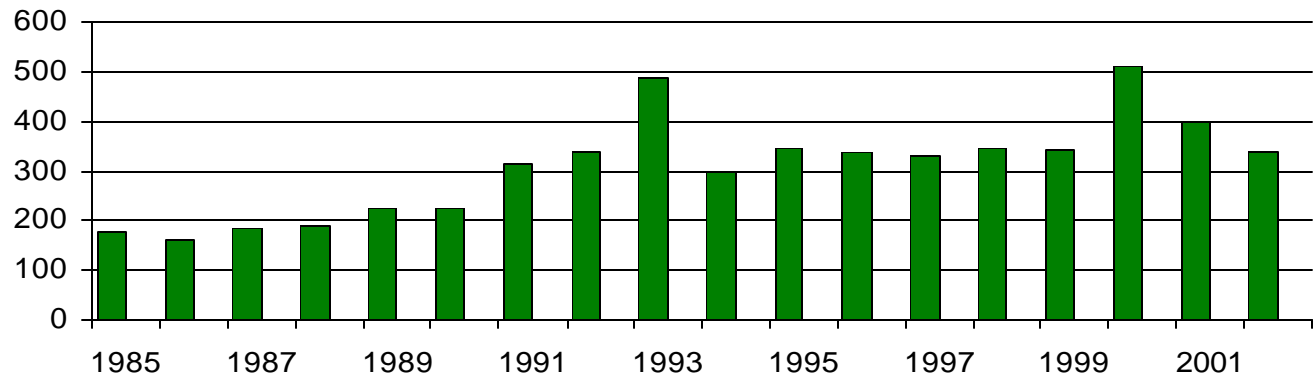
Instructors Certified



Total Active Instructors - 641

HUNTER EDUCATION

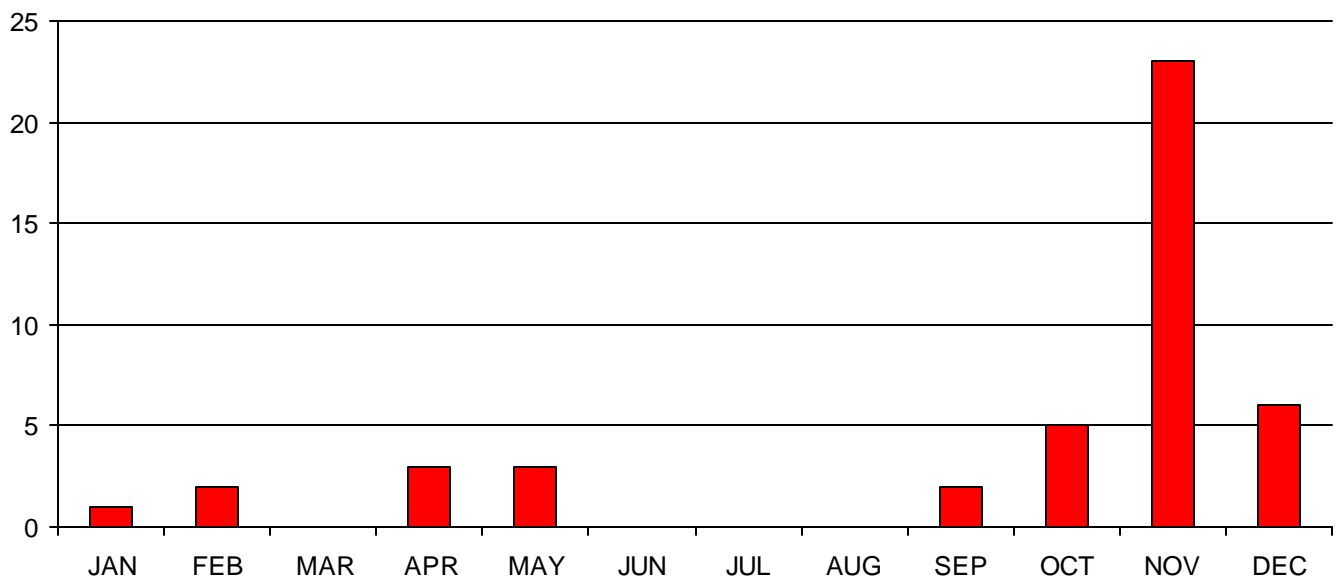
Instructors Certified



Total Active Instructors = 4,125

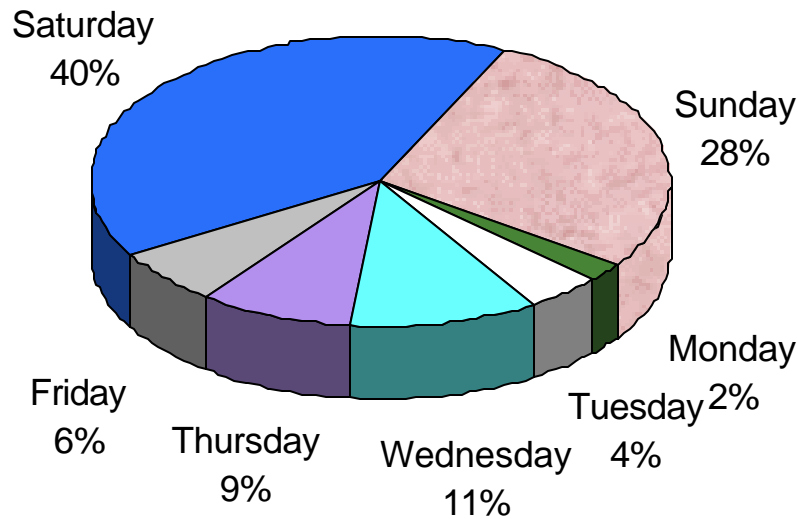
Month of Incident

All Incidents 2002



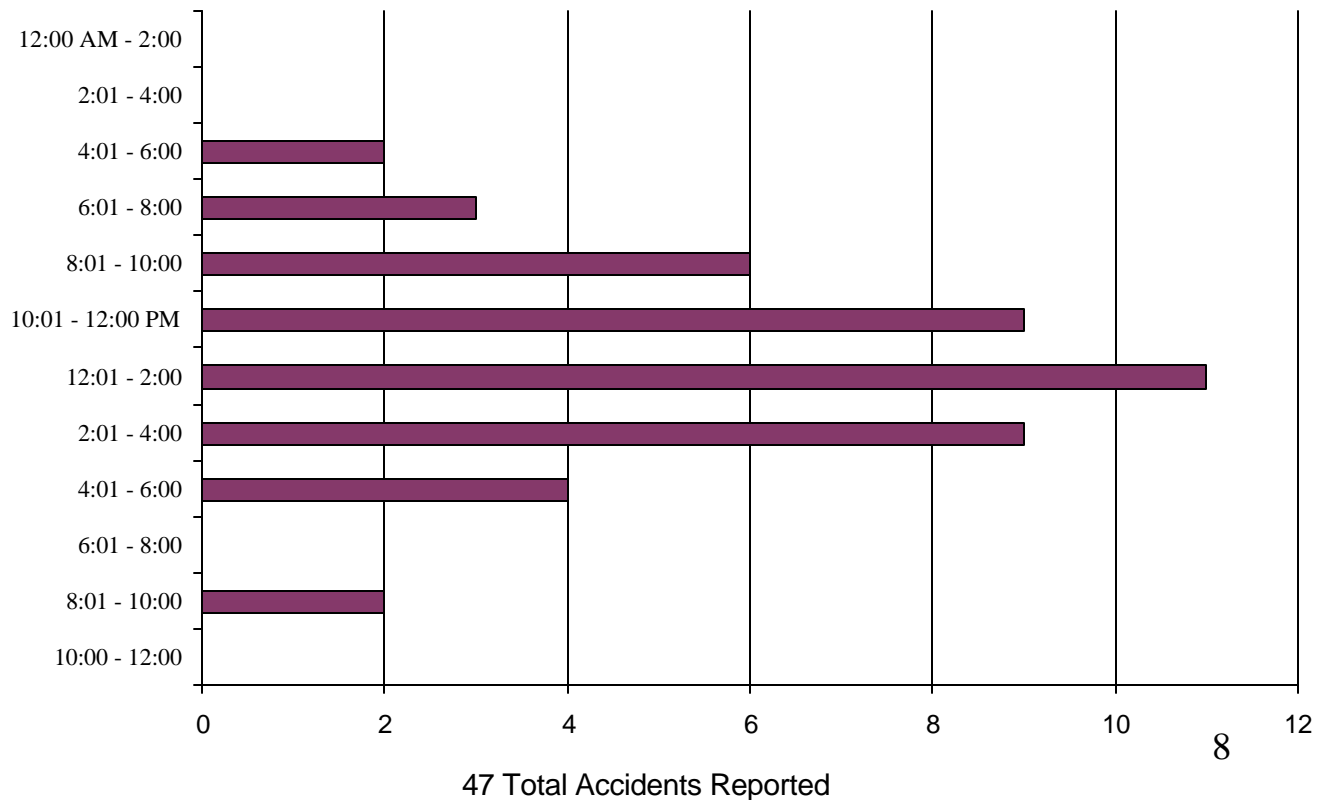
INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK

All Incidents 2002



TIME OF DAY

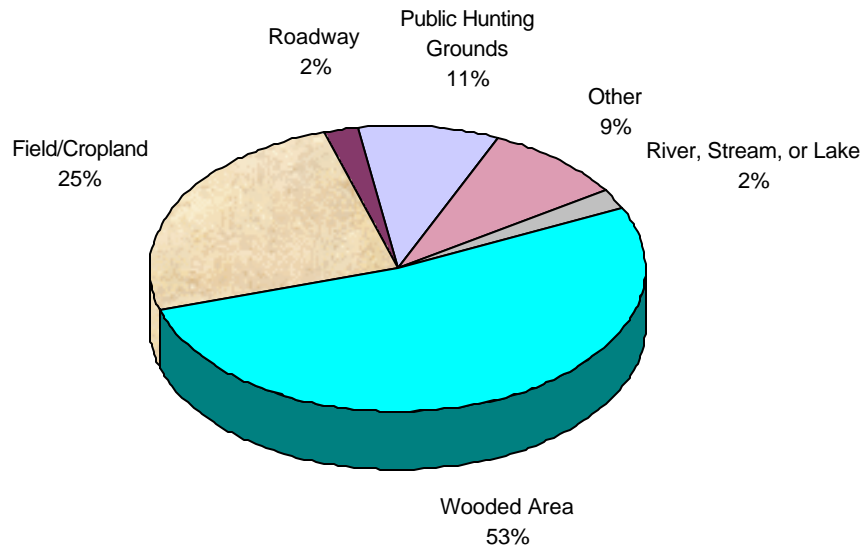
All Incidents 2002



WHERE INCIDENTS OCCURRED

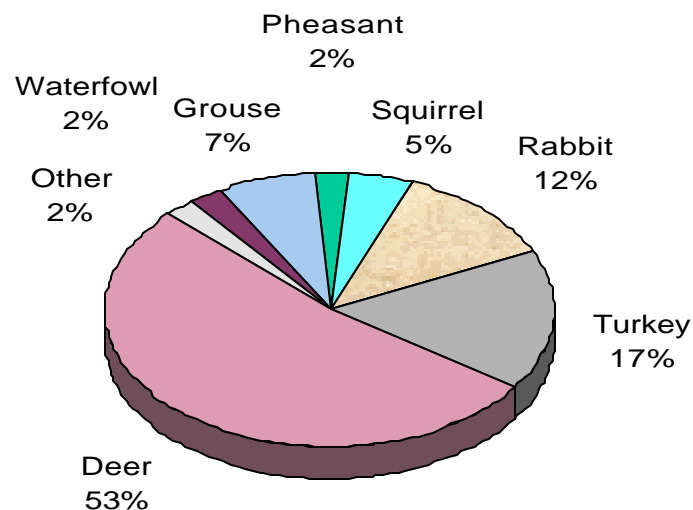
All Incidents 2002

Type of Land



ANIMALS HUNTED BY SHOOTER

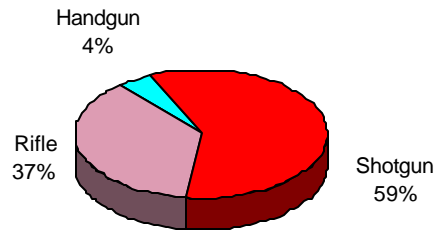
All Incidents 2002



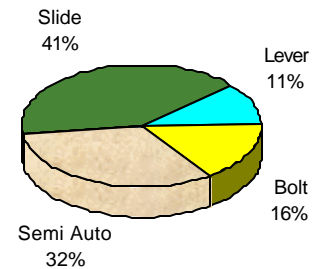
FIREARMS INVOLVED IN INCIDENTS

All Incidents 2002

Type

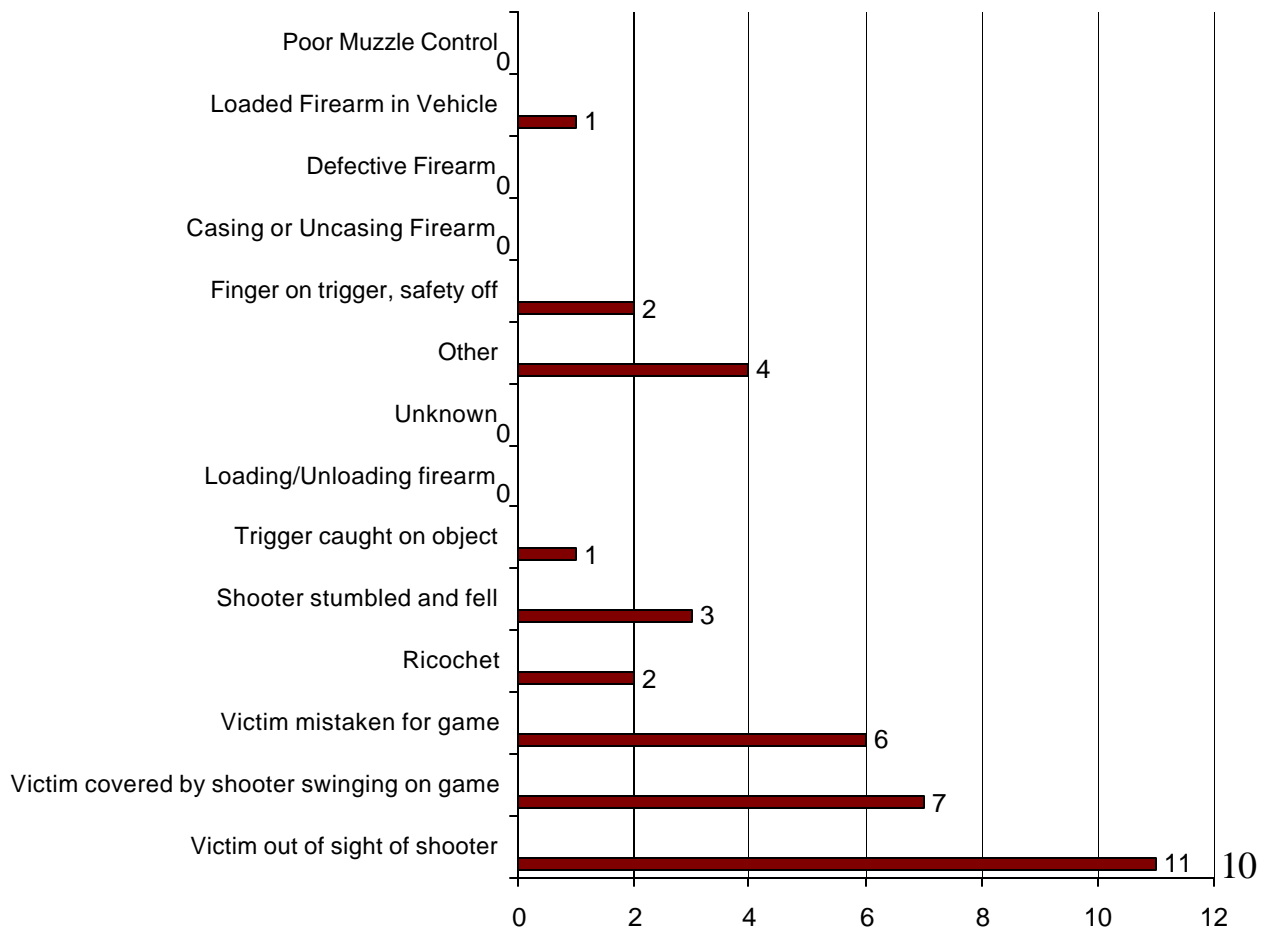


Action



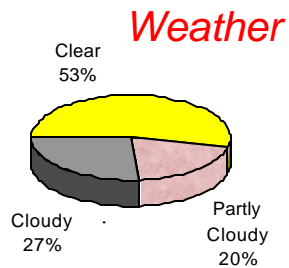
Contributing Factors to Incidents

All Incidents 2002

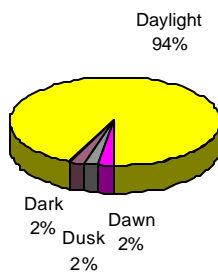


INCIDENT CONDITIONS

All Incidents 2002



Light Conditions



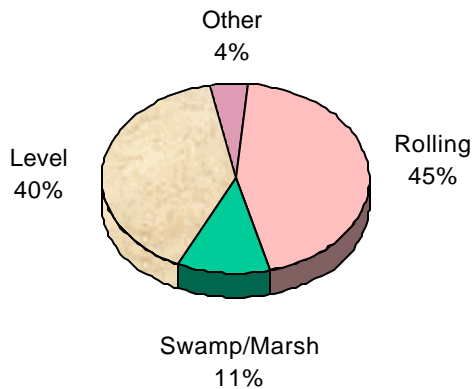
Precipitation



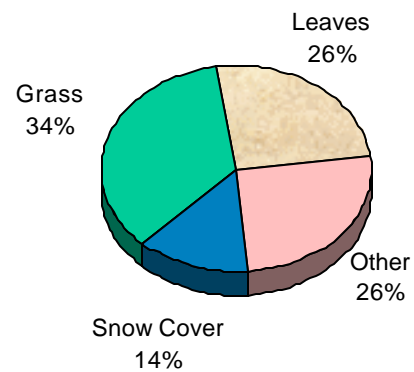
INCIDENT CONDITIONS

All Incidents 2002

Topography

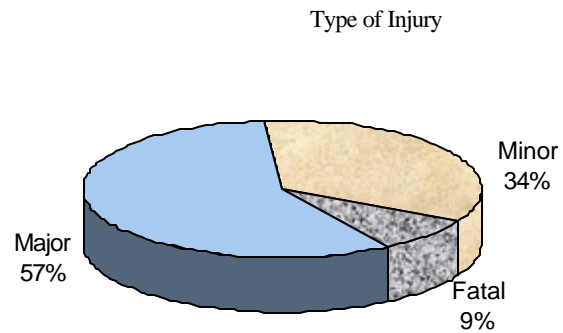
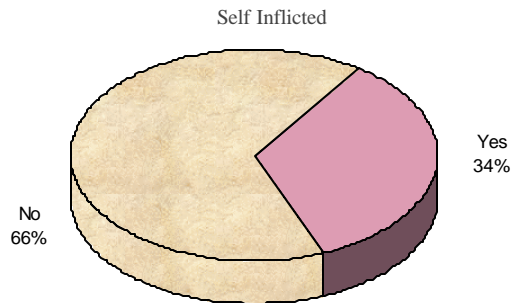


Ground Cover



INCIDENT STATISTICS

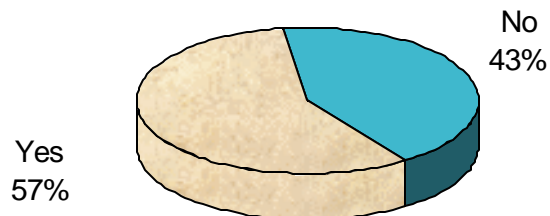
All Incidents 2002



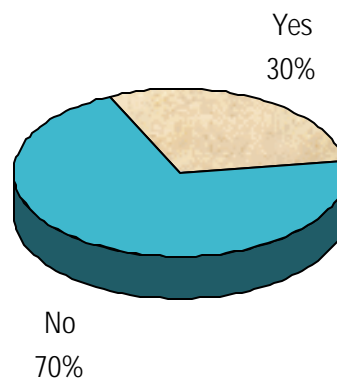
Shooter/Victim Information

Two-Party Incidents 2002

Members of the Same Hunting Party?



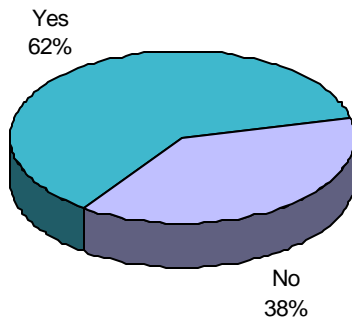
Could Shooter See Victim?



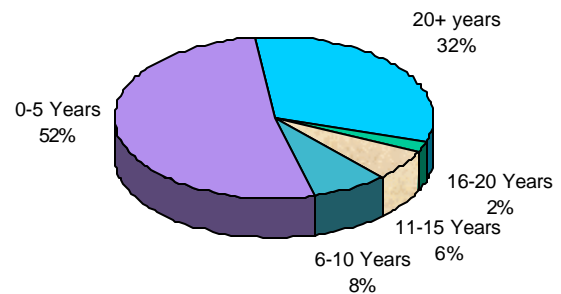
INCIDENT SHOOTER STATISTICS

All Incidents 2002

Hunter Education Graduate?



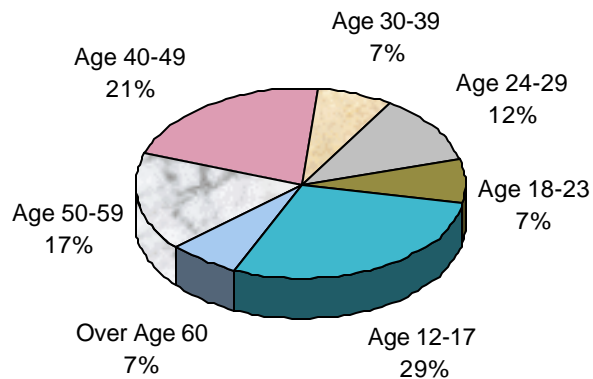
Years of Hunting Experience



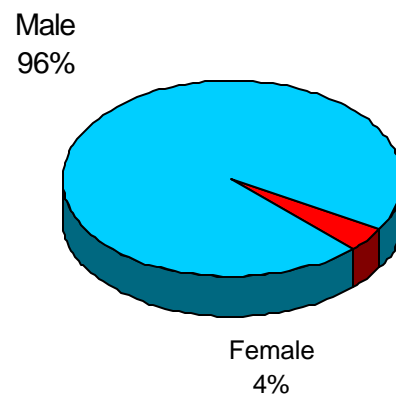
INCIDENT SHOOTER STATISTICS

All Incidents 2002

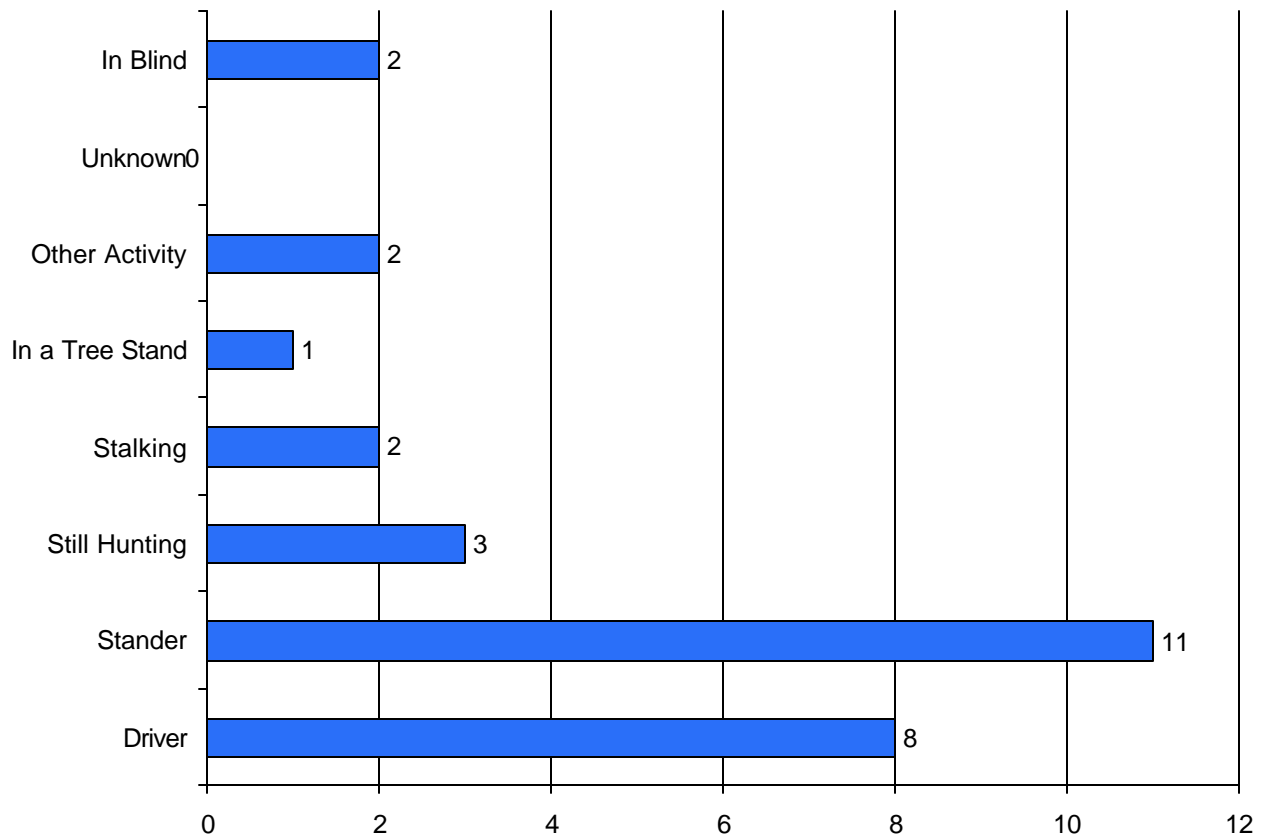
Age



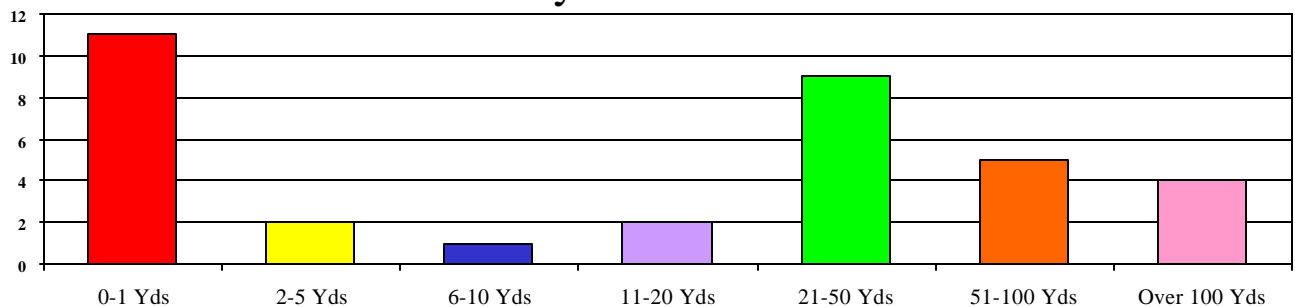
Sex



Activity Shooter Was Involved In All Incidents 2002



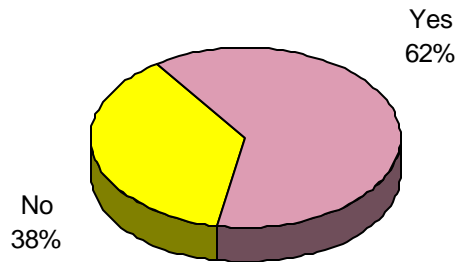
DISTANCE FROM MUZZLE TO WOUND Two-Party Incidents 2002



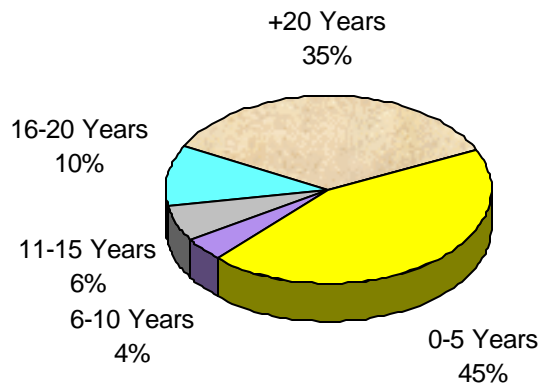
INCIDENT VICTIM STATISTICS

All Incidents 2002

Hunter Education Graduate?



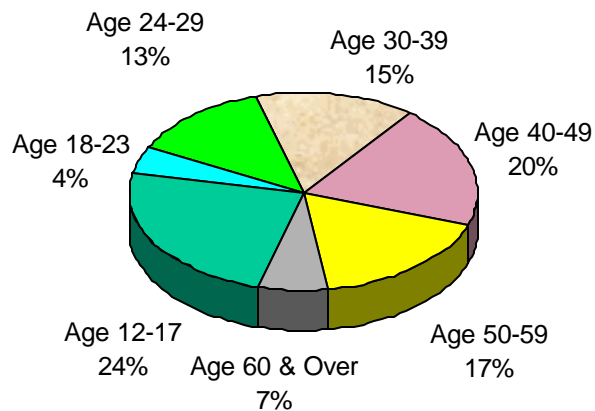
Years of Hunting Experience



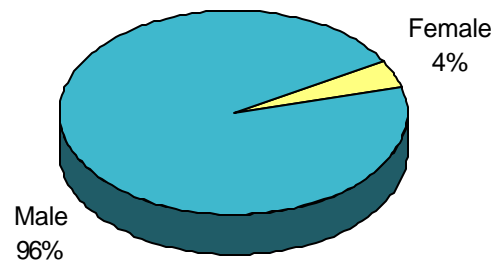
INCIDENT VICTIM STATISTICS

All Incidents 2002

Age

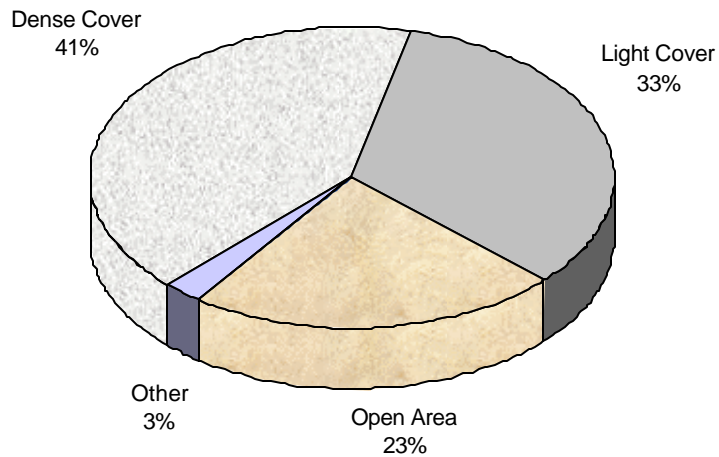


Sex



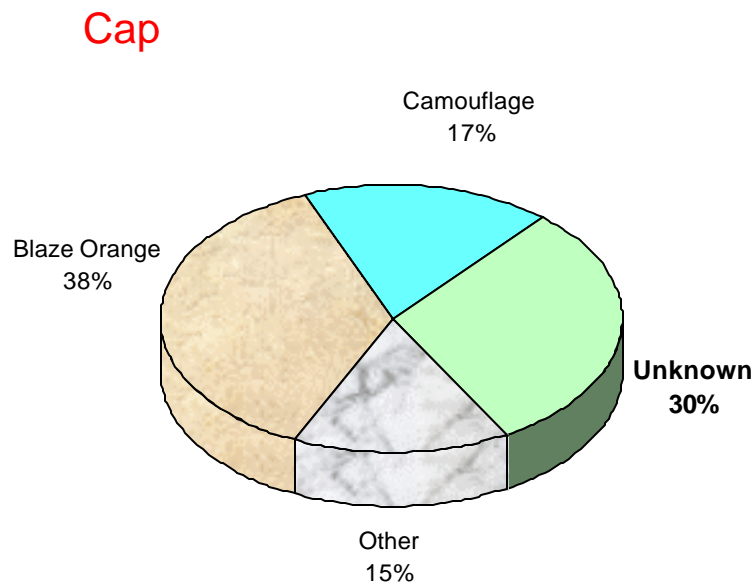
INCIDENT VICTIM SURROUNDINGS

Two-Party Incidents 2002



INCIDENT VICTIM CLOTHING COLOR

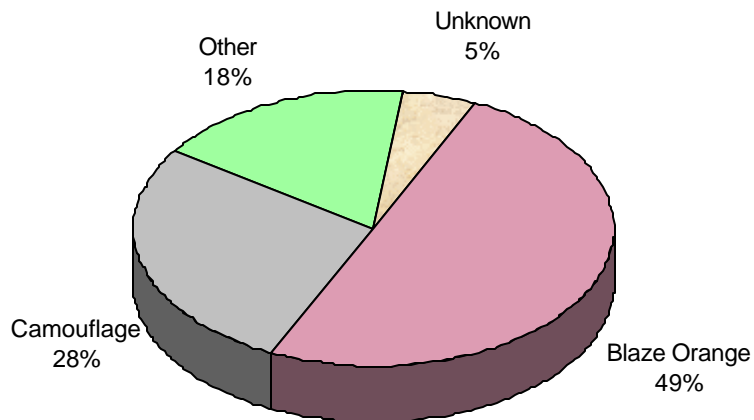
Two-Party Incidents 2002



INCIDENT VICTIM CLOTHING COLOR

Two-Party Incidents 2002

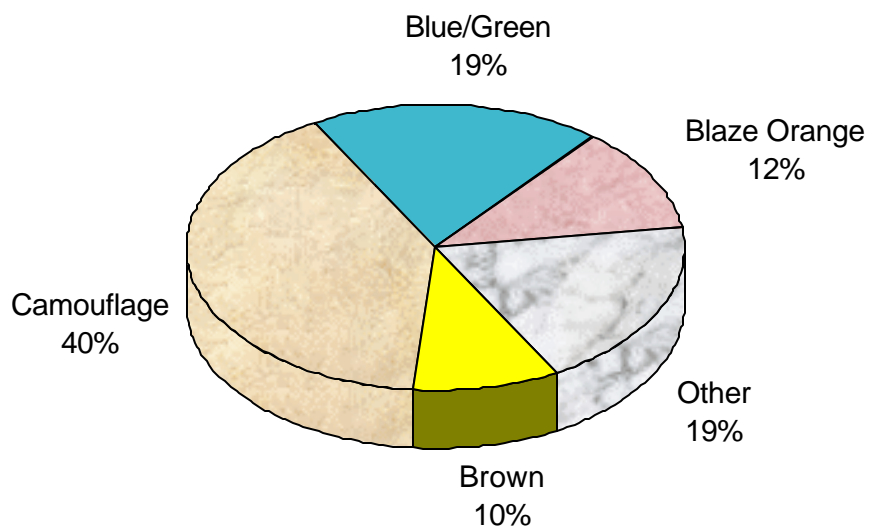
Coat or Vest



INCIDENT VICTIM CLOTHING COLOR

Two-Party Incidents 2002

Trousers



2002 Hunting Incidents by County
(All Incidents)

| County | #Incidents |
|----------------|------------|
| Ashland | 1 |
| Brown | 1 |
| Buffalo | 1 |
| Chippewa | 2 |
| Clark | 3 |
| Crawford | 2 |
| Dane | 1 |
| Door | 1 |
| Dunn | 3 |
| Eau Claire | 2 |
| Grant | 2 |
| Green | 2 |
| Lafayette | 1 |
| Lincoln | 1 |
| Marathon | 1 |
| Marinette | 1 |
| Marquette | 1 |
| Onieda | 1 |
| Outagamie | 1 |
| Pierce | 1 |
| Portage | 1 |
| Price | 3 |
| Sauk | 2 |
| Sawyer | 2 |
| Shawano | 2 |
| St Croix | 1 |
| Taylor | 1 |
| Vilas | 3 |
| Washburn | 1 |
| Waukesha | 1 |
| Waupaca | 1 |
| Total Reported | 47 |

2002 Hunting Incidents By
Deer Management Unit
(All Incidents)

| Deer Management Unit | # Incidents |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 13 | 1 |
| 14 | 1 |
| 17 | 2 |
| 19 | 1 |
| 20 | 1 |
| 23 | 1 |
| 27 | 1 |
| 29A | 1 |
| 29B | 1 |
| 34 | 1 |
| 35 | 1 |
| 37 | 1 |
| 45 | 1 |
| 46 | 1 |
| 52 | 1 |
| 55 | 1 |
| 58 | 4 |
| 59B | 4 |
| 60 | 1 |
| 61 | 1 |
| 62 | 2 |
| 62B | 1 |
| 63 | 1 |
| 63A | 1 |
| 64 | 1 |
| 67A | 1 |
| 70 | 1 |
| 71 | 3 |
| 73 | 1 |
| 73B | 1 |
| 75 | 1 |
| 75O | 1 |
| 75D | 1 |
| 76 | 1 |
| 77C | 1 |
| Total Reported | 47 |

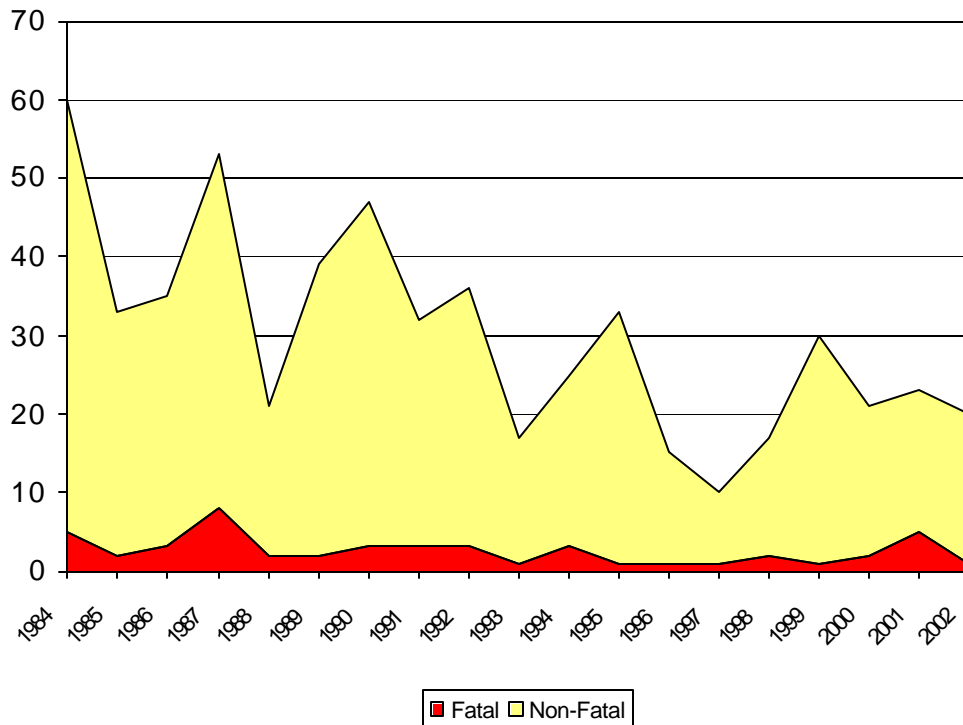
2002 Deer Gun Season Incidents
by County

| County | # Incidents |
|----------------|-------------|
| Ashland | 1 |
| Brown | 1 |
| Clark | 1 |
| Crawford | 1 |
| Dane | 1 |
| Dunn | 2 |
| Eau Claire | 1 |
| Green | 1 |
| Lafayette | 1 |
| Lincoln | 1 |
| Marathon | 1 |
| Marinette | 1 |
| Oneida | 1 |
| Outagamie | 1 |
| Shawano | 2 |
| Taylor | 1 |
| Waupaca | 1 |
| Total Reported | 19 |

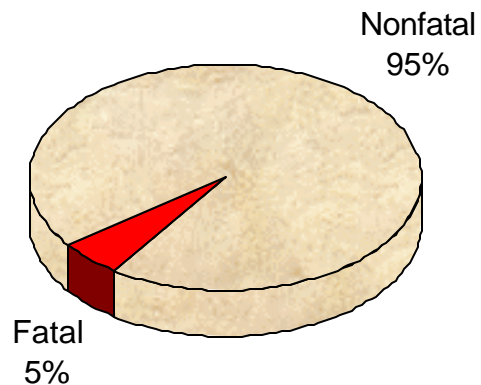
2002 Deer Gun Season Incidents
By Deer Management Unit

| Deer Management Unit | # Incidents |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 14 | 1 |
| 17 | 1 |
| 27 | 1 |
| 37 | 1 |
| 45 | 1 |
| 46 | 1 |
| 52 | 1 |
| 58 | 2 |
| 58B | 1 |
| 62 | 1 |
| 62B | 1 |
| 63 | 1 |
| 63A | 1 |
| 64 | 1 |
| 71 | 1 |
| 750 | 1 |
| 75D | 1 |
| 76 | 1 |
| Total Reported | 19 |

History of Gun Deer Incidents

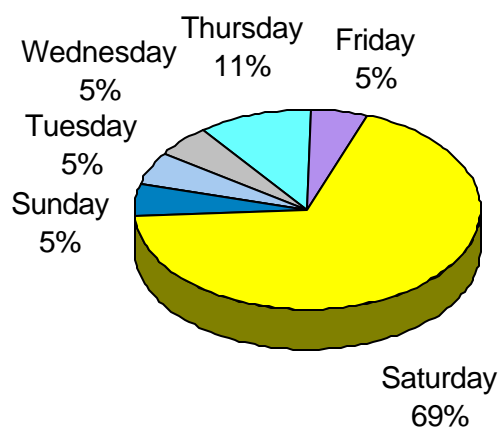


2002 GUN DEER SEASON INCIDENTS



INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK

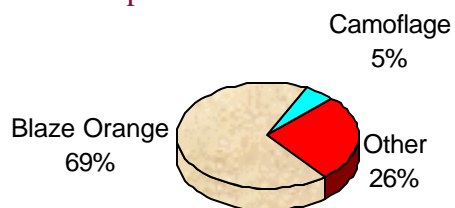
2002 Gun Deer Season



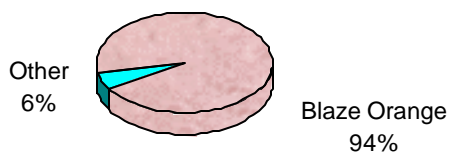
INCIDENT VICTIM CLOTHING COLOR

2002 Gun Deer Season - Two-Party Incidents

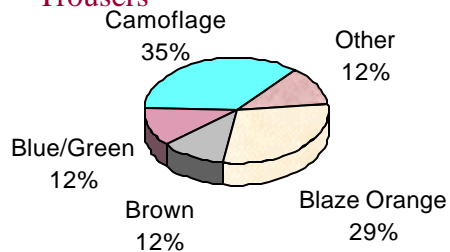
Cap



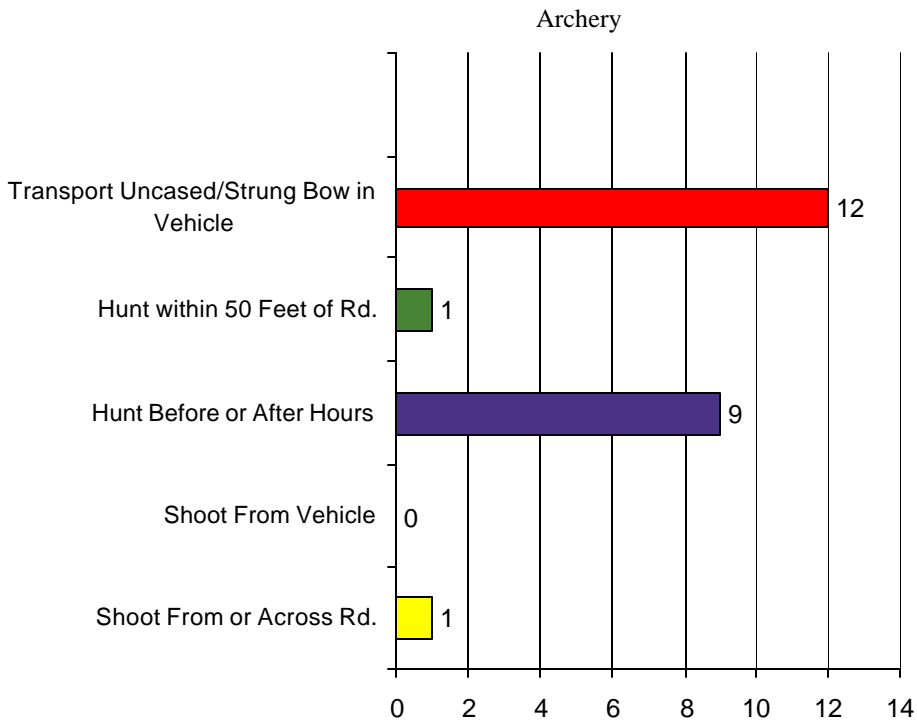
Coat/Vest



Trousers



2002 DEER SEASON SAFETY VIOLATIONS



2002 DEER SEASON SAFETY VIOLATIONS

